



**Figure 1–2** All living things are made of cells. Bacteria are unicellular, whereas the giraffe is multicellular. Does the giraffe have bigger cells than a bacterium or just more of them?

## Activity Bank

A Human Cell vs. an Ameba,  
p. 246

## ACTIVITY

### CALCULATING

#### How Many Cells?

There are 5 million red blood cells in every milliliter of blood. How many red blood cells are there in 5 milliliters of blood? How many milliliters of blood will contain 7.5 million red blood cells? Ten million red blood cells?

a specific job to do. And as the part does its specific job, it works in harmony with all the other parts to keep the living thing healthy and alive.

The groupings of these specific parts within a living thing are called levels of organization. **The levels of organization in a multicellular living thing include cells, tissues, organs, and organ systems.**

## Cells

Your body is made up of different **cells**, which are the building blocks of living things. Just as a house is made up of many bricks, so your body is made up of many cells—trillions of cells, in fact! And each of the trillions of cells in your body has its own special job. For example, some cells work to continuously provide fuel for your body. Other cells are involved in sensing external conditions for your body. And still other cells aid in the job of the organization and control of your entire body.

Cells come in all shapes and sizes. There are box-shaped cells, cells that resemble giant balls, and cells that look like tiny strands of wool. Regardless of its particular job or shape, a cell works in harmony with other cells to keep the body alive. Let's take a look at three different kinds of cells, each specialized for a particular job.